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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,266	07/11/2001	Anastacia Rosario Aricayos Barangan	AA473	1483

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EXAMINER

HIRL, JOSEPH P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2129

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/903,266

Applicant(s)

BARANGAN ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph P. Hirl

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15 and 17-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15 and 17-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>Mar 8, 2005</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action is in response to an AMENDMENT entered June 7, 2005 for the patent application 09/903,266 filed on July 11, 2001.
2. All prior office actions are fully incorporated into this Final Office Action by reference.

### ***Status of Claims***

3. Claims 1 and 19 are amended. Claims 1-13, 15 and 17-23 are pending.

### ***Double Patenting***

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double

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patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

5. Claims 1-13, 15 and 17-23 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-37 of copending Application No. 09/862,742. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the conditions of the fabric care product, dosages and related computer system are not novel and obvious of either related to the other.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-13, 15, and 17-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Koopersmith (U.S. Pub 2001/0042002, referred to as **Koopersmith**).

***Claim 1***

Koopersmith teaches under control of a first client system (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1; Examiner's Note (EN): para 13 applies); collecting personalized consumer data pertaining to a consumer's fabric care needs and habits and pertaining to non-fabric care related information (**Koopersmith**, paras 0126-1327); sending the data to a server system (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 4); under control of the server system (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 4); receiving the data from the first client system (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1); based on the consumer's personalized data determining a recommendation for one or more fabric care products (**Koopersmith**, para 4) and sending the recommendation to the first client system, a second client system or both (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1). Koopersmith does not teach wherein the fabric care product is selected from the group consisting of a laundry detergent, fabric softening composition, wrinkle removal composition, bleach, bleach activator, dye fixative, stain remover, anti-static composition, dryer added sheet product. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention considering that Koopersmith teaches consideration of fabrics (**Koopersmith**, para 0707) and further teaches the cleaning of personal clothing (**Koopersmith**, paras 0728, 00729) to consider a fabric care product selected from the group consisting of a laundry detergent, fabric softening composition, wrinkle removal composition, bleach, bleach activator, dye fixative, stain remover, anti-static composition, dryer added sheet

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product. Such selection is consistent with the teachings of Koopersmith and the need of an individual to clean shirts and blouses if they are not sent out to be cleaned.

***Claim 2***

Koopersmith teaches under control of the first client system; receiving the recommendation for the one or more fabric care products (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1; para 92).

***Claim 3***

Koopersmith teaches under control of the first client system; displaying one or more queries; and in response to one or more actions by the consumer, sending answers to the one or more queries to a server system (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1; para 92).

***Claim 4***

Koopersmith teaches household budget considerations; space considerations within the household; existence and/or identity of any allergies in the consumer's household; relative priority of fabric care operations to other household and family demands on the consumer's time; the consumer's habits, hobbies and personal interests; the consumer's ambitions and life goals; the consumer's stage in life; the consumer's preferred media; and mixtures thereof (**Koopersmith**, paras 0126-1327).

***Claim 5***

Koopersmith teaches under control of the server system; calculating a recommended quantity for each of the one or more fabric care products recommended for purchase; and sending the recommended quantities with the purchase

recommendation to the first client system, a second client system or both  
(**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1; para 92).

***Claim 6***

Koopersmith teaches under control of the first client system; receiving the recommended quantities for each of the fabric care products recommended for purchase (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1; para 92).

***Claim 7***

Koopersmith teaches the server system communicates with the first client system via the Internet (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 1; para 2).

***Claim 8***

Koopersmith teaches under control of the first client system with one or more actions by the consumer, one or more fabric care products are selected for purchase and a request is sent to the server system to purchase the selected fabric care products (**Koopersmith**, Figs. 7, 8; paras 98-99).

***Claim 9***

Koopersmith teaches the fabric care products are selected from the group consisting of laundry detergents, fabric conditioning compositions, wrinkle removal compositions, bleaches, bleach activators, dye fixatives, stain removers, anti-static compositions, dryer added sheet products and mixtures thereof (**Koopersmith**, Figs. 7, 8; paras 98-99).

***Claim 10***

Koopersmith teaches the fabric care products selected for purchase are identified, packaged and delivered to the consumer (**Koopersmith**, Figs. 7, 8; paras 98-99).

***Claim 11***

Koopersmith teaches the fabric care products selected for purchase are dispensed directly to the consumer or they are dispensed to a fabric laundering or fabric drying apparatus under control of the consumer (**Koopersmith**, Figs. 7, 8; paras 98-99).

***Claim 12***

Koopersmith teaches wherein a receipt identifying the fabric care products selected for purchase is issued to the consumer before the products are delivered to the consumer (**Koopersmith**, para 113).

***Claim 13***

Koopersmith teaches the receipt comprises an electronic transmitter beacon, and wherein the location of the consumer can be determined electronically with the assistance of the electronic transmitter beacon, once the consumer is located, the fabric care products can be delivered directly to the consumer (**Koopersmith**, para 2; EN: para 2 applies; the internet is an electronic network that includes transmitters, i.e. cell phones which are beacons and would facilitate delivery).

***Claim 15***

Koopersmith teaches the number, ages and gender of the people in the consumer's household; the frequency with which fabric care processes are conducted



by the consumer or by members of the consumer's household; the type and color of fabrics that are cared for; and Mixtures thereof (**Koopersmith**, paras 0126-1327; para 48).

***Claim 17***

Koopersmith teaches the server system comprises a customized web site having a user interface, wherein the user interface includes consumer identification data unique to each consumer who accesses the web site, and wherein the consumer identification data is stored in a data repository and is used to create a unique consumer profile corresponding to the consumer identification data for each consumer (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 6; paras 0126-1327).

***Claims 18, 23***

Koopersmith teaches providing a sample of a fabric care product identified in the fabric care recommendation, said sample being provided to the consumer associated with the personalized consumer data (**Koopersmith**, para 120).

***Claim 19***

Koopersmith teaches under control of an interactive user interface (**Koopersmith**, Figs. 1, 6): collecting personalized consumer data pertaining to a consumer's fabric care needs and habits and pertaining to non-fabric care related information (**Koopersmith**, paras 0126-1327); comparing the personalized data to a data repository, wherein the data repository comprises fabric care data selected from the group consisting of fabric care products, dosage recommendations, usage instructions, and mixtures thereof (**Koopersmith**, para 92); and preparing a fabric care

recommendation (**Koopersmith**, para 93; EN: filtering will customize the recommendation).

***Claim 20***

Koopersmith teaches the interactive user interface comprises a computer assembly connected to the data repository, a display device and an input device (**Koopersmith**, Figs. 1, 6).

***Claim 21***

Koopersmith teaches the fabric care recommendation is displayed on the display device (**Koopersmith**, Figs. 1, 6; para 17).

***Claim 22***

Koopersmith teaches wherein the personalized consumer data pertaining to non-fabric care related information is selected from the group consisting of: household budget considerations; space considerations within the household; existence and/or identity of any allergies in the consumer's household; relative priority of fabric care operations to other household and family demands on the consumer's time; the consumer's habits, hobbies and personal interests; the consumer's ambitions and life goals; the consumer's stage in life; the media preferred by the consumer; and mixtures thereof (**Koopersmith**, Fig. 6; para 17; paras 0126-1327). Koopersmith does not teach wherein the fabric care product is selected from the group consisting of a laundry detergent, fabric softening composition, wrinkle removal composition, bleach, bleach activator, dye fixative, stain remover, anti-static composition, dryer added sheet product. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

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invention considering that Koopersmith teaches consideration of fabrics (**Koopersmith**, para 0707) and further teaches the cleaning of personal clothing (**Koopersmith**, paras 0728, 00729) to consider a fabric care product selected from the group consisting of a laundry detergent, fabric softening composition, wrinkle removal composition, bleach, bleach activator, dye fixative, stain remover, anti-static composition, dryer added sheet product. Such selection is consistent with the teachings of Koopersmith and the need of an individual to clean shirts and blouses if they are not sent out to be cleaned.

### ***Response to Arguments***

8. The objection to claim 1 regarding an improper Markush form is withdrawn.

9. Applicant's arguments filed on June 7, 2005 related to Claims 1-13, 15 and 17-23 have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

In reference to Applicant's argument:

The Office Action rejects the claims under 35 USC 102(e) in view of Koopersmith (US 2001/0042002 A1). Applicant amends the term "fabric conditioning composition" to a fabric softening composition to overcome the rejection.

Examiner's response: para 13. applies; 35 USC 103(a) applies as identified above.

### ***Examination Considerations***

10. The claims and only the claims form the metes and bounds of the invention.

"Office personnel are to give the claims their broadest reasonable interpretation in light

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of the supporting disclosure. *In re Morris*, 127 F.3d 1048, 1054-55, 44USPQ2d 1023, 1027-28 (Fed. Cir. 1997). Limitations appearing in the specification but not recited in the claim are not read into the claim. *In re Prater*, 415 F.2d, 1393, 1404-05, 162 USPQ 541, 550-551 (CCPA 1969)" (MPEP p 2100-8, c 2, I 45-48; p 2100-9, c 1, I 1-4). The Examiner has full latitude to interpret each claim in the broadest reasonable sense. Examiner will reference prior art using terminology familiar to one of ordinary skill in the art. Such an approach is broad in concept and can be either explicit or implicit in meaning.

11. Examiner's Notes are provided to assist the applicant to better understand the nature of the prior art, application of such prior art and, as appropriate, to further indicate other prior art that maybe applied in other office actions. Such comments are entirely consistent with the intent and spirit of compact prosecution. However, and unless otherwise stated, the Examiner's Notes are not prior art but a link to prior art that one of ordinary skill in the art would find inherently appropriate.

12. Unless otherwise annotated, Examiner's statements are to be interpreted in reference to that of one of ordinary skill in the art. Statements made in reference to the condition of the disclosure constitute, on the face of it, the basis and such would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, establishing thereby an inherent prima facie statement.

13. Examiner's Opinion: paras 10-12 apply. The Examiner has full latitude to interpret each claim in the broadest reasonable sense.

***Conclusion***

14. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

13. Claims 1-13, 15 and 17-23 are rejected.

***Correspondence Information***

Any inquiry concerning this information or related to the subject disclosure should be directed to the Examiner, Joseph P. Hirl, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3685. The Examiner can be reached on Monday – Thursday from 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the

Examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached at (571) 272-3687.

Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

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Joseph P. Hirl  
Primary Examiner  
August 10, 2005

